

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00901 051239Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 /093 W

-----025767 051241Z /53

O R 051146Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7230

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 901

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA, SF, AO, MPOL

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: ANGOLAN OPERATION ENDED REPORTS OF SWAPO ATTACKS
AT RUACANA

REF: CAPE TOWN 898

1. ACCORDING TO SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS REPORTS TODAY, MAY 5,
THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING SOUTH WEST AFRICA COMMAND,
MAJOR GENERAL GELDENHUYS, SAID LAST NIGHT THAT THE "LIMITED
OPERATION" BY SOUTH AFRICAN SECURITY FORCES INTO ANGLOLA
HAD BEEN COMPLETED. IN THE STATEMENT, GELDENHUYS REPORTEDLY
SAID THAT SECURITY FORCES HAD MOPPED UP TERRORIST BASES
AT VARIOUS PLACES AND STRICT PRECAUTIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN TO
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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00901 051239Z

INSURE THAT THE LOCAL POPULATION AND ANGOLAN TROOPS DID
NOT BECOME INVOLVED.

2. GELDENHUYS ALSO REPORTEDLY ASSERTED THAT "RECENT BORDER
VIOLATIONS FROM ANGLOA WHICH LED TO INTIMIDATION AND OTHER
FORMS OF TERRORISM, FORCED US TO TAKE THIS TOUGH LINE AGAINST
TERRORISTS OPERATING ACROSS THE BORDER BETWEEN ANGOLA AND SOUTH WEST

AFRICA." ACCORDING TO OTHER PRESS REPORTS, DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS
IN PRETORIA HAS DECLINED TO REVEAL ANY DETAILS OF CASUALTIES
INFLECTED ON EITHER SIDE DURING THE OPERATION.

3. PRESS TODAY ALSO CARRIES REPORTS OF A SEPARATE STATEMENT
BY A SPOKESMAN OF THE SWA COMMAND IN WINDHOEK THAT TERRORISTS
HAD FIRED ON THE RUACANA HYDROELECTRIC SCHEME ON THE BORDER
BETWEEN NAMIBIA AND ANGOLA ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT MAY 3. THE
ANNOUNCEMENT MADE ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTOR OF WATER AFFAIRS
IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA, ASSERTED THAT SHOOTING FROM THE ANGOLAN
SIDE LASTED ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES AND WAS AIMED AT THE
RUACANA INSTALLATION BUILDINGS. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT
IN ANOTHER INCIDENT TERRORISTS HAD SABOTAGED THE WATER PIPE LINE
FROM OSHIKANGO TO ONDANGWA. IT WAS NOT CLEAR IN THE PRESS ACCOUNT
WHEN THE SABOTAGE ACTION ON THE PIPE LINE HAD TAKEN PLACE.
NELSON

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